

# State dependent effective interaction for the hyperspherical formalism

Nir Barnea<sup>1,3</sup>, Winfried Leidemann<sup>2,3</sup>, and Giuseppina Orlandini<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*ECT\*, European Center for Theoretical Studies in Nuclear Physics and Related Areas,  
Strada delle Tabarelle 286, I-38050 Villazzano (Trento), Italy;*

<sup>2</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Trento, I-38050 Povo, Italy;*

<sup>3</sup>*Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Gruppo collegato di Trento.*

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## Abstract

The method of effective interaction, traditionally used in the framework of an harmonic oscillator basis, is applied to the hyperspherical formalism of few-body nuclei ( $A = 3 \div 6$ ). The separation of the hyperradial part leads to a state dependent effective potential. Undesirable features of the harmonic oscillator approach associated with the introduction of a spurious confining potential are avoided. It is shown that with the present method one obtains an enormous improvement of the convergence of the hyperspherical harmonics series in calculating ground state properties, excitation energies and transitions to continuum states.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Shell-model calculations in complex nuclei make use of the single particle harmonic oscillator (HO) basis and are carried out in a truncated model space. In the last few years an impressive progress has been made in the application of these shell-model methods to the study of light nuclei [1–5]. In the so called no-core shell-model calculations one keeps all the nucleons active and, instead of the single particle HO basis, one introduces HO basis functions that depend on the Jacobi coordinates, thus removing the spurious center of mass motion from the beginning [4,5].

Since the HO series has a slow convergence rate one generally has to replace the bare nucleon–nucleon interaction by an effective interaction tailored to the truncated model space. Theoretically for a given model space one can find an effective interaction such that the spectrum of the effective  $A$ -body Hamiltonian coincides with a subset of the spectrum of the full-space bare Hamiltonian. In practice, however, finding such an effective interaction is as difficult as solving the full  $A$ -body problem. Therefore one resorts to an approximated effective interaction, usually obtained from the solution of a 2-body Hamiltonian. These 2-body effective interactions do no longer lead to the exact result in the truncated space, but, if constructed properly, they retain two important properties: (i) they converge to the bare Hamiltonian if the model space is enlarged up to the full Hilbert space; (ii) the energy levels of the effective Hamiltonian converge to the exact values faster than those of the bare Hamiltonian.

The HO basis functions resulting from a confining Hamiltonian do not possess the correct asymptotic behavior of the nuclear  $A$ -body Hamiltonian. As a result the use of the HO basis may lead to a rather slow convergence of other observables besides the energy levels. This limitation can be circumvented by using the hyperspherical harmonics (HH) basis functions instead of the HO basis. In the HH formalism, successfully applied to the nuclear few-body problem [6–9], the Jacobi coordinates are replaced by a single length coordinate, the hyperradius, and a set of  $3A - 4$  hyperangles. The HH are the  $A$ -body generalization of the 2-body spherical harmonics, and likewise depend only on the hyperangular (angular) coordinates in the hyperspherical (spherical) decomposition of the  $A$ -body (2-body) system. In general, the wave function can be expanded in a series consisting of products of HH basis functions and hyperradial basis functions. Very often the slow convergence rate of the HH basis is accelerated by using correlation functions [6,8–10]. It is the aim of the present work to investigate an alternative way of improving the convergence. To this end we reformulate the method of effective interaction for the HH expansion.

The HO and the HH expansion can become equivalent by making a particular choice for the hyperradial basis functions. Therefore a trivial way to achieve a reformulation would be to make the HH expansion equivalent to the HO expansion. However, by doing so one would lose the extra flexibility the HH basis has in comparison to the HO basis and, moreover, impose an incorrect asymptotic behavior of the wave function. Therefore we renounce to such an equivalent formulation.

There is a further advantage of the HH basis, which is due to the presence of the collective hyperradial coordinate. Eventually it will allow the introduction of a state dependent effective interaction similar to the recently formulated HO multi-valued effective interaction [2,11]. At first sight, however, it appears that the hyperradius is leading to two problems.

First, its collective feature seems to make it difficult to single out a 2-body Hamiltonian in a natural way. Second, using a general form for the hyperradial basis functions one may find it difficult to identify a model space in accordance with a 2-body effective interaction. In this work we propose to solve these problems by defining a model space that consists of a complete hyperradial set and the set of HH functions with generalized angular momentum quantum number  $K \leq K_{max}$ . The effective interaction is then deduced from an hyperangular Hamiltonian associated with the 2-body problem.

In Sec. II we review the method of hyperspherical coordinates and of the HH expansion. In Sec. III we derive the effective interaction for the HH expansion. Numerical results are then given in Sec. IV and conclusions are drawn in Sec. V.

## II. THE HYPERSPHERICAL HARMONIC FUNCTIONS

To introduce the hyperspherical coordinates we start from the center-of-mass coordinate  $\vec{R} = \frac{1}{A} \sum_{i=1}^A \vec{r}_i$  and the normalized reversed order  $N = A - 1$  Jacobi coordinates

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\eta}_1 &= \sqrt{\frac{A-1}{A}} \left( \vec{r}_1 - \frac{1}{A-1} (\vec{r}_2 + \vec{r}_3 + \cdots + \vec{r}_A) \right) \\ \vec{\eta}_2 &= \sqrt{\frac{A-2}{A-1}} \left( \vec{r}_2 - \frac{1}{A-2} (\vec{r}_3 + \vec{r}_4 + \cdots + \vec{r}_A) \right) \\ &\dots \\ \vec{\eta}_N &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{r}_{A-1} - \vec{r}_A)\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

where the  $j$ 'th particle is specified relative to the center of mass of particles  $j+1$  to  $A$ . The Jacobi coordinate  $\vec{\eta}_j$  consists of a radial coordinate  $\eta_j$  and a pair of angular coordinates  $\hat{\eta}_j \equiv (\theta_j, \phi_j)$ .

These coordinates are then transformed into the hyperangular coordinates  $\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$  through the relation

$$\sin \alpha_n = \eta_n / \rho_n, \tag{2}$$

where

$$\rho_n^2 = \rho_{n-1}^2 + \eta_n^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \eta_j^2. \tag{3}$$

For  $n = N$  we also find the relation

$$\rho^2 \equiv \rho_N^2 = \frac{1}{A} \sum_{i < j}^A (\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)^2. \tag{4}$$

Therefore, the hyperradial coordinate  $\rho$  is symmetric with respect to permutations of the underlying single particle coordinates.

The  $3N = 3(A-1)$  internal coordinates for the  $A$ -particle system consist of the hyperradial coordinate  $\rho \equiv \rho_N$ , and the  $3N - 1$  ‘‘hyperangular’’ coordinates  $\Omega_N \equiv$

$\{\hat{\eta}_1, \hat{\eta}_2, \dots, \hat{\eta}_N, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_N\}$ . These coordinates depend on the set of Jacobi coordinates specified in Eq. (1).

Using the hyperspherical coordinates, the Laplace operator for  $n$  Jacobi coordinates,  $n = 1 \dots N$ , can be written as a sum of two terms

$$\Delta_n = \frac{1}{\rho_n^{3n-1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho_n} \rho_n^{3n-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho_n} - \frac{1}{\rho_n^2} \hat{K}_n^2. \quad (5)$$

The hyperspherical, or grand angular momentum operator  $\hat{K}_n^2$  of the  $n$  Jacobi coordinates can be expressed in terms of  $\hat{K}_{n-1}^2$  and  $\hat{\ell}_n^2$  as follows [13]

$$\hat{K}_n^2 = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \alpha_n^2} + \frac{3n-6-(3n-2)\cos(2\alpha_n)}{\sin(2\alpha_n)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha_n} + \frac{1}{\cos^2 \alpha_n} \hat{K}_{n-1}^2 + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \alpha_n} \hat{\ell}_n^2, \quad (6)$$

where we define  $\hat{K}_1^2 \equiv \hat{\ell}_1^2$ . The angular momentum operator associated with these  $n$  coordinates is  $\vec{\hat{L}}_n = \vec{\hat{L}}_{n-1} + \vec{\hat{\ell}}_n$ . The operators  $\hat{K}_n^2$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_n^2$ ,  $\hat{K}_{n-1}^2$ ,  $\hat{L}_n^2$  and  $\hat{L}_{nz}$  commute with each other.

The hyperspherical harmonics functions  $\mathcal{Y}_{[K_n]}$  are the eigenfunctions of this hyperangular operator. The explicit expression for the HH functions of the first  $n$  Jacobi coordinates is given by [12]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}_{[K_n]} = & \left[ \sum_{m_1, \dots, m_n} \langle \ell_1 m_1 \ell_2 m_2 | L_2 M_2 \rangle \langle L_2 M_2 \ell_3 m_3 | L_3 M_3 \rangle \times \dots \right. \\ & \times \langle L_{n-1} M_{n-1} \ell_n m_n | L_n M_n \rangle \prod_{j=1}^n Y_{\ell_j, m_j}(\hat{\eta}_j) \Big] \times \\ & \left[ \prod_{j=2}^n \mathcal{N}_j(K_j; \ell_j K_{j-1}) (\sin \alpha_j)^{\ell_j} (\cos \alpha_j)^{K_{j-1}} P_{\mu_j}^{(\ell_j + \frac{1}{2}, K_{j-1} + \frac{3j-5}{2})}(\cos(2\alpha_j)) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where  $Y_{\ell, m}$  are the spherical harmonic functions,  $P_{\mu}^{(a, b)}$  are the Jacobi polynomials and  $\mathcal{N}_j(K_j; \ell_j K_{j-1})$  are normalization constants given by [13]:

$$\mathcal{N}_j(K_j; \ell_j K_{j-1}) = \left[ \frac{(2K_j + 3j - 2) \mu_j! \Gamma(\mu_j + K_{j-1} + \ell_j + \frac{3j-2}{2})}{\Gamma(\mu_j + \ell_j + \frac{3}{2}) \Gamma(\mu_j + K_{j-1} + \frac{3j-3}{2})} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (8)$$

The symbol  $[K_n]$  stands for the set of quantum numbers  $\ell_1, \dots, \ell_n$ ,  $L_2, \dots, L_n$ ,  $\mu_2, \dots, \mu_n$  and  $M_n$ . The quantum numbers  $K_j$  are given by

$$K_j = 2\mu_j + K_{j-1} + \ell_j \quad ; \mu_1 \equiv 0, \quad (9)$$

and the  $\mu_j$  are non-negative integers. By construction,  $\rho_n^{K_n} \mathcal{Y}_{[K_n]}$  is an harmonic polynomial of degree  $K_n$ . The HH function  $\mathcal{Y}_{[K_n]}$  is an eigenfunction of  $\hat{K}_n^2$  with eigenvalues

$$K_n(K_n + 3n - 2). \quad (10)$$

It is evident that the HH functions (7) do not possess any special properties under particle permutation. Therefore the first step in applying the HH expansion to the  $A$ -body problem is the symmetrization of the HH basis. In the current work we employ two powerful

algorithms [14,15] recently developed for the construction of an HH basis with well defined permutational symmetry. This enabled us to check our results, since they could be obtained in two independent ways.

In view of Eqs. (3) and (4) it is evident that the HO Hamiltonian, written in the form

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \left( -\frac{\Delta_j}{2} + \omega^2 \eta_j^2 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{3N+4}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} - \frac{\hat{K}^2}{\rho^2} + \omega^2 \rho \right), \quad (11)$$

has eigenvectors of the following form

$$\Psi_{HO} = R_{n_\rho}(\rho) \mathcal{Y}_{[K]} \quad (12)$$

with eigenvalues

$$E_n = \hbar\omega \left( \frac{3(A-1)}{2} + n \right) = \hbar\omega \left( \frac{3(A-1)}{2} + 2n_\rho + K \right). \quad (13)$$

Therefore the HH  $K$ -quantum number can be associated with the  $n = K$  excitations of the HO wave function.

### III. THE EFFECTIVE INTERACTION

In general we would like to use the HH basis functions to solve the A-body Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^A \frac{\vec{p}_i^2}{2m} + \sum_{i<j}^A V_{ij}, \quad (14)$$

where  $m$  is the nucleon mass and  $V_{ij}$  is the nucleon–nucleon (NN) interaction. In practice, looking for the eigenvectors of  $H$  in terms of the HH expansion turns out to be a notoriously difficult task. Therefore, one usually has to introduce correlation functions in order to accelerate the convergence of the calculation [6,8–10]. In this work, however, we shall explore another possibility and instead of using correlation functions we shall use the method of effective interaction [16]. This approach is largely used in shell-model calculations (see e.g. Ref. [17]), where the harmonic oscillator basis is used in a truncated model space. Instead of the bare nucleon–nucleon interaction one uses effective interactions inside the model space. Defining  $P$  as the projection operator into the model space and  $Q = 1 - P$  as the projection into the complementary space, the model space Hamiltonian can be written as

$$H_P = P \left[ \sum_{i=1}^A \frac{\vec{p}_i^2}{2m} \right] P + P \left[ \sum_{i<j}^A V_{ij} \right]_{eff} P. \quad (15)$$

In general the effective interaction appearing in Eq. (15) is an A-body interaction. If it is determined without any approximation, the model-space Hamiltonian provides a set of eigenvalues which coincides with a subset of the eigenvalues of the original full-space Hamiltonian, Eq. (14). However, calculation of the exact A-body effective interaction is as difficult as finding the full-space solution.

In the HH formalism the model space can be defined as a product of the hyperradial subspace and the complete set of HH basis functions with generalized angular momentum quantum number  $K \leq K_{max}$ . Instead of calculating the exact effective interaction we shall look for an approximate effective interaction with the following properties:

- $V_{eff} \longrightarrow V$  as  $K_{max} \longrightarrow \infty$ ;
- the eigenvalues,  $E_i(K_{max})$ , and eigenvectors of the effective A-body Hamiltonian converge to their limiting values faster than the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the bare Hamiltonian.

Let us now turn to the problem of constructing the effective interaction. It is customary to approximate  $V_{eff}$  by a sum of two-body effective interactions determined from a 2-body problem. As the nuclear 2-body system contains only one bound state one is forced to introduce a confining potential into the 2-body problem in order to ensure large overlaps between the model space states and the eigenvectors of the 2-body problem. It will be shown that in the present approach one does not need such an additional confining potential.

Using the symmetrized HH basis the matrix elements of the effective interaction can be deduced from the matrix elements of the “last” pair,

$$\langle \sum_{i < j}^A V_{2\,eff}(\vec{r}_{ij}) \rangle = \frac{A(A-1)}{2} \langle V_{2\,eff}(\vec{r}_{A,A-1}) \rangle . \quad (16)$$

The relevant hyperspherical degrees of freedom associated with  $V_{2\,eff}(\vec{r}_{A,A-1})$  are  $\hat{\eta}_N$  and the hyperangle,

$$\sin \alpha_N = \frac{r_{A,A-1}}{\sqrt{2}\rho} . \quad (17)$$

A natural choice for the corresponding hyperspherical “2-body” Hamiltonian is

$$H_2(\rho) = \frac{1}{2m} \frac{\hat{K}_N^2}{\rho^2} + V(\sqrt{2}\rho \sin \alpha_N \cdot \hat{\eta}_N) , \quad (18)$$

since  $\hat{K}_N^2$  contains the canonical kinetic energy associated with the two-body variables  $\alpha_N$  and  $\hat{\eta}_N$  (see Eq. (6)). Such an  $H_2$  is in fact an A-body effective interaction as it contains the hyperspherical part of the A-body kinetic energy operator and it is a function of the collective coordinate  $\rho$ . The hyperradial kinetic energy operator has not been included in  $H_2$ . The reason is that we can use a complete basis set for the  $\rho$ -space and therefore we do not need to define an effective interaction for the hyperradial part.

Due to the collective coordinate,  $\rho$ , in  $H_2$  one has automatically a confinement of the 2-body-system: for moderate values of  $\rho$  the relation  $0 \leq r_{A,A-1} \leq \sqrt{2}\rho$  ensures localization of the 2-body wave function and for large values of  $\rho$  the effective Hamiltonian coincides with the bare one, since the NN interaction vanishes. Therefore large overlaps between the model space states and the eigenvectors of the 2-body problem are ensured.

Different from the HO approach we do not calculate an effective interaction for a “free” 2-body-system but for a “bound” one. Therefore we can avoid to introduce in  $H_2$  the

additional confining potential which is necessary for the HO effective interaction and which leads to undesirable features.

The matrix elements of  $H_2$  between the A-body HH functions, Eq. (7), are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle [K_N] | H_2(\rho) | [K'_N] \rangle &= \delta_{[K_N][K'_N]} \frac{1}{2m} \frac{K_N(K_N + 3N - 2)}{\rho^2} \\ &+ \delta_{[K_{N-1}][K'_{N-1}]} V_{K_N L_N \ell_N, K'_N L'_N \ell'_N}^{K_{N-1} L_{N-1}}(\rho), \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where

$$V_{K_N L_N \ell_N, K'_N L'_N \ell'_N}^{K_{N-1} L_{N-1}}(\rho) = \int d\Omega_N \mathcal{Y}_{[K_N]}^* V(\sqrt{2}\rho \sin \alpha_N \cdot \hat{\eta}_N) \mathcal{Y}_{[K'_N]}. \quad (20)$$

We see that  $H_2$  is diagonal in the quantum numbers  $[K_{N-1}]$  and for central potentials also in  $L_N, \ell_N$ . Due to the hyperangular integration  $H_2$  explicitly depends on quantum numbers of the residual system, i.e.  $K_{N-1}$  and for non-central forces also  $L_{N-1}$ . The effective 2-body Hamiltonian is independent of the other quantum numbers in  $[K_{N-1}]$  (see Eq. 7). As a result the HH effective interaction depends on the state of the residual  $A - 2$  particle subsystem. Such a "medium correction" of the 2-body force is of course a great advantage of our approach and is similar to the HO multi-valued effective interaction [2,3]. On the other hand one has to pay for it with a greater numerical effort, since the effective interaction has to be calculated for all the various states and does also depend on the specific A-body system.

Solving the hyperradial equation on a grid, we have to diagonalize  $H_2$  for each grid point  $\rho_i$  and for all the possible values of  $K_{N-1}$  in our model space. In general one should reach a  $K_{\text{MAX}}$  value for the Q-space around 60 for the ground state of the s-shell nuclei and  $K_{\text{MAX}} \sim 200$  for p-shell nuclei and excited states. From this point we can follow the same procedure as Barrett and Navratil [4,5]. Employing the Lee-Suzuki [16] similarity transformation method, we can use the eigenvectors,  $\{|i\rangle\}$ , and eigenvalues,  $\{\epsilon_i\}$ , of  $H_2^{K_{N-1}, L_{N-1}}(\rho)$  to construct the effective interaction. Let us denote by  $|\alpha\rangle$  the HH functions that belong to our model space, i.e. the HH function  $|[K_N]\rangle$  such that  $K_N \leq K_{\text{max}}$ , and by  $|\beta\rangle$  the states that belong to the  $Q$  space,  $Q = \{|[K_N]\rangle ; K_N > K_{\text{max}}\}$ . The Lee-Suzuki effective interaction then takes the form,

$$P\tilde{H}_2P = PH_2P + PH_2Q\omega P, \quad (21)$$

where the transformation operator  $\omega = Q\omega P$  is given by the equation

$$\langle \beta | i \rangle = \sum_{\alpha} \langle \beta | \omega | \alpha \rangle \langle \alpha | i \rangle. \quad (22)$$

If  $n_P$  is the number of model-space HH basis functions that belong to the subspace  $K_{N-1}$ , we may solve Eq. (22) for  $\omega$  by choosing a set,  $\mathcal{A}$ , of  $n_P$  eigenvectors with the lowest eigenvalues  $|i\rangle$  and inverting the matrix  $\langle \alpha | i \rangle$ . The resulting effective 2-body Hamiltonian

$$\langle \alpha | \tilde{H}_2(K_{N-1}, \rho) | \alpha' \rangle = \sum_i^{n_P} \left[ \langle \alpha | i \rangle \epsilon_i \langle i | \alpha' \rangle + \sum_{\beta} \langle \alpha | i \rangle \epsilon_i \langle i | \beta \rangle \langle \beta | \omega | \alpha \rangle \right], \quad (23)$$

will have the property that  $P|i\rangle, |i\rangle \in \mathcal{A}$ , is a right eigenvector of  $\tilde{H}_2$  with eigenvalue  $\epsilon_i$ . The effective interaction is in general a non-hermitian operator, however it can be hermitized, using the transformation [18]

$$H_{2\,eff} = [P(1 + \omega^\dagger \omega)P]^{1/2} \tilde{H}_2 [P(1 + \omega^\dagger \omega)P]^{-1/2}. \quad (24)$$

The effective interaction can be now deduced from  $H_{2\,eff}$ , by subtracting the kinetic energy term,

$$V_{eff} = H_{2\,eff} - \frac{1}{2m} \frac{\hat{K}_N^2}{\rho^2}. \quad (25)$$

It can be seen that as  $K_{max} \longrightarrow \infty$   $V_{2\,eff}$  indeed reproduces the bare NN interaction in contrast to the HO effective interaction, where only the total Hamiltonian converges to the correct result. Another interesting feature of the current formulation is that, in contrast to HO effective interaction, the HH effective interaction vanishes at large distances as it should be for a system of non-interacting particles. In addition we would like to mention that similarly to the HO approach [4,19] the present formalism can be extended to incorporate, beyond two-body, also three- and more-body effective interactions.

#### IV. NUMERICAL RESULTS

In order to check the proposed formulation of the hyperspherical effective interaction, we apply the described formalism to few-body nuclei in the mass range  $A = 3 \div 6$ . The following simple nucleon-nucleon interactions are used: Malfliet-Tjon potentials MTV [20] and MT-I/III [21] as well as the Minnesota potential MN [22] (see Table 1). Of course we are aware that realistic potential models have already been used even for nuclei with  $A > 4$  [23], but the principal aim of the present work is the introduction of the HH effective interaction. To this end we investigate the rate of convergence of the HH series with the effective interaction for ground state energies, radii, and excitation energies. In addition we study transitions to continuum states via the method of Lorentz integral transform [24].

Expanding the effective wave functions into HH basis functions the effective Hamiltonian (Eq. (15)) is transformed into a set of coupled differential equations in the hyperradius  $\rho$ . These equations are then solved expanding the solution in terms of generalized Laguerre polynomials.

Our results for ground state energies and radii as well as first excitation energies are summarized in Table II. In case that results from other authors were available they are also given in the table. In general one observes a very good agreement comparing the results of the various methods. In the following the quality of the convergence for the calculated observables is discussed in detail.

In Fig. 1 we illustrate the convergence patterns with bare and effective interactions for binding energy and radius of the  $A = 3$  system with the MN potential. It is readily seen that the effective interaction improves the convergence drastically. Already with  $K = 2$  one finds for the energy (radius) a deviation of only 0.6 % (1.3 %) from the converged value, while with the bare interaction one needs  $K = 10(8)$  for a similarly good result. For  $K = 10$



one obtains sufficiently converged results with the effective interaction, whereas for the bare interaction one has to go up to  $K = 18$  or higher to reach a similar precision.

In Fig. 2 we show the corresponding results for  ${}^4\text{He}$  with the MTV potential. In this case the difference between the convergence of effective and bare interactions is even stronger. For the effective interaction one obtains almost the correct values for energy and radius with a rather low  $K$  of 4. The convergence with the bare interaction is considerably worse, even with  $K = 20$  one does not have completely converged results. In Fig. 3 we compare our results to those of Navratil and Barrett with the HO effective interaction [19]. One obtains also for the HO case a very nice convergence, but it depends on the chosen harmonic oscillator frequency  $\Omega$ . On the other hand it is evident that the parameter free HH effective interaction leads to a considerable improvement.

In Figs. 4-6 we give an overview of our results for the bound state properties with the various potential models. For  $A = 4$  one finds a very good convergence both for binding energy and radius. For the systems with  $A > 4$ , which approximately can be considered as an  $\alpha$ -core plus remaining nucleons at larger distances, there is generally a good convergence, but for the case of the radii with the MTV potential. However, we do not reach the same extremely good precision as for the cases with  $A \leq 4$ , since we have to restrict our calculation to a somewhat lower  $K$ . This is due to the fact that an increasing number of nucleons leads to a much higher number of HH functions for the same  $K$ . In general our calculations are limited to about 400 HH basis functions.

The first excitation energies of the  $A = 6$  systems are illustrated in Fig. 7. One sees that the convergence patterns are quite similar. It shows that also non ground state observables can be calculated with sufficient precision with the HH effective interaction.

One may ask what happens at even higher energies, e.g. in reactions where states in the continuum are involved. In order to address this question we consider as next point transitions from the ground state to continuum states due to an external probe. Such response functions can be calculated with the method of the Lorentz integral transform [24]. In this formalism, besides the ground state, one needs an additional ‘‘Lorentz-state’’  $\tilde{\Psi}$ , which is localized and which carries all the information about the excitation of the system and of the final state interactions. The convergence of the Lorentz integral transform depends on the convergence on the hyperangular quantum number of the ground state ( $K_0$ ) and that of  $\tilde{\Psi}$  ( $K_T$ ). Both effects are illustrated in Fig. 8, where we show the Lorentz integral transform of the  ${}^4\text{He}$  total photoabsorption cross section in the electric dipole approximation with the MT-I/III potential. One sees that for a convergent result of the transform a rather low  $K_T$  for the HH expansion of  $\tilde{\Psi}$  is sufficient, while one has to include somewhat higher  $K_0$ ’s in the HH expansion of the ground state. Our result for the Lorentz transform is a bit lower than that of Ref. [34] since there, different from the Lorentz state, the ground state was calculated without correlations and was not fully convergent, but the conclusions of Ref. [34] remain unchanged.

## V. CONCLUSION

In this work we have introduced an hyperspherical effective interaction. To this end we have defined a model space consisting of a complete hyperradial basis and a set of HH functions with generalized angular momentum quantum number  $K \leq K_{max}$ . The effective

interaction has been derived from an hyperangular Hamiltonian connected with the two-body problem. The Hamiltonian also includes the hyperangular kinetic energy, which is proportional to  $1/\rho^2$ , where  $\rho$  is the collective hyperradial coordinate. Because of this additional  $A$ -body piece the  $A - 2$  residual system cannot be considered as a pure spectator. It leads to an effective interaction depending explicitly on the state of the residual system, similar to the HO multi-valued effective interaction.

We should mention that the present approach can be extended in a straightforward way to derive an HH 3- or more-body effective interaction.

We have applied the developed formalism to few-body systems in the mass range  $A = 3 \div 6$  calculating binding/excitation energies, radii and, via the method of the Lorentz integral transform, also reactions at energies far in the continuum. For the larger  $A$ 's these calculations have become feasible due to a powerful algorithm to construct symmetrized basis states. In general we obtain nicely converging results showing that the HH effective interaction is a very powerful tool. Particularly interesting is the fact that the rate of convergence is always very good and does not depend much on the considered observable. We believe that the inherent confinement of the effective "two-body" Hamiltonian is largely responsible for this fact.

Where available we have compared our results to other calculations in the literature. In general a very good agreement is obtained.

Eventually we would also like to point out that the present approach has various advantages compared to the harmonic oscillator formalism: (i) one does not need to introduce an additional confining potential and contrary to the HO approach one obtains a parameter free effective interaction. Therefore one does not have a problem that is typical for the HO formalism, namely that the convergence of different observables, e.g. binding energies and radii, lead to rather different best choices for such a parameter; (ii) the HH effective interaction is automatically state dependent; (iii) the HH basis functions are much better suited than the HO basis functions to describe the asymptotic part of the wave function. On the other hand it will require additional effort to elevate the present approach to the same level of sophistication as the HO formalism regarding the use of modern realistic interactions and number of particles.

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# TABLES

TABLE I. List of the parameters of the N-N potential used in this work. The potential is written as a sum of a few terms; each is expressed as  $V_i f(\mu_i, r)(W_i + B_i P_\sigma - H_i P_\tau + M_i P_r)$ , where  $P_\sigma, P_\tau, P_r$  are spin-, isospin- and space-exchange operators.  $f(\mu_i, r) = \exp(-\mu r^2)$  for Gauss-type potential,  $f(\mu_i, r) = \exp(-\mu r)/r$  Yukawa-type. The potential strengths  $V_i$  are in [MeV]. The range  $\mu$  is in  $[\text{fm}^{-2}]$  for Gauss-type or  $[\text{fm}^{-1}]$  for Yukawa type.

Potential	Type	i	$V_i$	$\mu_i$	$W_i$	$M_i$	$B_i$	$H_i$
MTV [20]	Yukawa	1	1458.05	3.11	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
		2	- 578.09	1.55	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MTI-III [21]	Yukawa	1	1458.27	3.11	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
		2	-578.178	1.555	0.5	0.5	0.0495	0.0495
MN [22]	Gauss	1	200.0	1.487	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
		2	-178.0	0.639	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
		3	-91.85	0.465	0.25	0.25	-0.25	-0.25

TABLE II. Comparison of binding energies ( $E_B$ ) in [MeV] and root mean square radii ( $\langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2}$ ) in [fm] obtained with the present method of effective interaction in the HH formalism (EIHH) with results of other methods. In the case of EIHH the calculations with MTI-III and MN potentials include the Coulomb interaction. For EIHH the number in parenthesis indicates the variance with respect to the result obtained with  $K = K_{max} - 1$ . The quality of the convergence can be inferred from Figs. 1-6.

Nucleus	Method [Ref.]	MN		MTI-III		MTV	
		$E$	$\langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2}$	$E$	$\langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2}$	$E$	$\langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2}$
$^3\text{H}$	EIHH	-8.3856(5)	1.7036(1)	-8.718(9)	1.7064(2)	-8.244(8)	1.6798(3)
	EIHO [25]	—	—	—	—	-8.235(5)	—
	SVM [26]	-8.380	1.698	—	—	-8.2527	1.682
	Faddeev [27]	—	—	-8.54	—	-8.25273	—
	ATMS [28]	—	—	—	—	-8.26(1)	1.682
	CHH1 [29]	—	—	—	—	-8.240	—
	CHH2 [30]	—	—	-8.74	—	—	—
	GFMC [31]	—	—	—	—	-8.26(1)	1.682
	VMC [26]	—	—	—	—	-8.27(3)	1.68
$^3\text{H}^*$	EIHH	-0.421(9)	4.757(5)	-1.01(1)	7.2(1)	-0.073(6)	6.973(8)
$^4\text{He}$	EIHH	-29.96(1)	1.4106(1)	-30.71(2)	1.4222(2)	-31.358(9)	1.40851(3)
	SVM [26]	-29.937	1.41	—	—	-31.360	1.4087
	FY [32]	—	—	-30.29	—	-31.36	—
	ATMS [28]	—	—	—	—	-31.36	1.40
	CHH2	—	—	-30.69	1.421	—	—
	CRCG [33]	—	—	—	—	-31.357	—
	GFMC [31]	—	—	—	—	-31.3(2)	1.36
	VMC [26]	—	—	—	—	-31.30(5)	1.39
$^4\text{He}^*$	EIHH	-7.848(4)	3.405(7)	-8.48(1)	3.59(2)	—	—
$^5\text{He}$	EIHH	-28.1(2)	2.17(6)	-29.4(1)	2.13(5)	-43.7(3)	1.499(5)
	SVM [26]	—	—	—	—	-43.48	1.51
	VMC [26]	—	—	—	—	-43.0(2)	1.51
$^5\text{He}^*$	EIHH	-20.8(9)	3.33(1)	-22.(1)	3.312(2)	—	—
$^6\text{He}$	EIHH	-30.6(5)	2.323(2)	-32.5(3)	2.263(9)	-68.5(2)	1.512(4)
	SVM [26]	-30.07	2.44	—	—	-66.30	1.52
	VMC [26]	—	—	—	—	-66.3(3)	1.50
$^6\text{He}^*$	EIHH	-22.5(3)	3.55(9)	-23.5(2)	3.54(3)	—	—

${}^6\text{Li}$	EIHH	-35.2(4)	2.16(2)	-36.6(3)	2.15(2)	-68.5(2)	1.512(4)
	SVM [26]	-34.59	2.22	—	—	-66.30	1.52
${}^6\text{Li}^*$	EIHH	-25.7(4)	—	-26.6(5)	3.35(3)	—	—
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## FIGURES

FIG. 1. Binding energy (a) and root mean square radius (b) of the A=3 system for Minnesota potential [22] as a function of the hyperangular quantum number  $K$ . The asymptotic value has been indicated by a dashed line.

FIG. 2. Same as Fig.1 for A=4 and the MTV potential [20]

FIG. 3. Comparison between results of the present method (full squares: effective interaction, open squares: bare interaction) and that of Refs. [5,25] obtained with different values of the HO parameter  $\Omega(\hbar = 1)$ . Binding energy (a) and root mean square radius (b) of the A=4 system for the MTV potential [20] as a function of the hyperangular quantum number  $K$  or of the HO quantum number  $N$ .

FIG. 4. Binding energies (a) and root mean square radii (b) of different A-body systems for MTV potential [20] as a function of the hyperangular quantum number  $K$ .

FIG. 5. Same as Fig. 3 for MTI-III potential [21]

FIG. 6. Same as Fig. 3 for MN potential [22]

FIG. 7. Binding energies  $E_B$  and first excitation energies  $E_1^*$  of  ${}^6\text{He}$  (a) and  ${}^6\text{Li}$  (b) for MTI-III [21] and MN potentials [22]

FIG. 8. Lorentz integral transform of the  ${}^4\text{He}$  total photoabsorption cross section as a function of  $\sigma_R$ . In (a) the convergence in the ground state hyperangular quantum number  $K_0$  is shown for a fixed value of the hyperangular quantum number  $K_T$  of the "Lorentz state"  $\tilde{\Psi}$ ; in (b) the convergence in the hyperangular quantum number  $K_T$  of the "Lorentz state"  $\tilde{\Psi}$  is shown for a fixed value of the ground state hyperangular quantum number  $K_0$ .



Fig.1

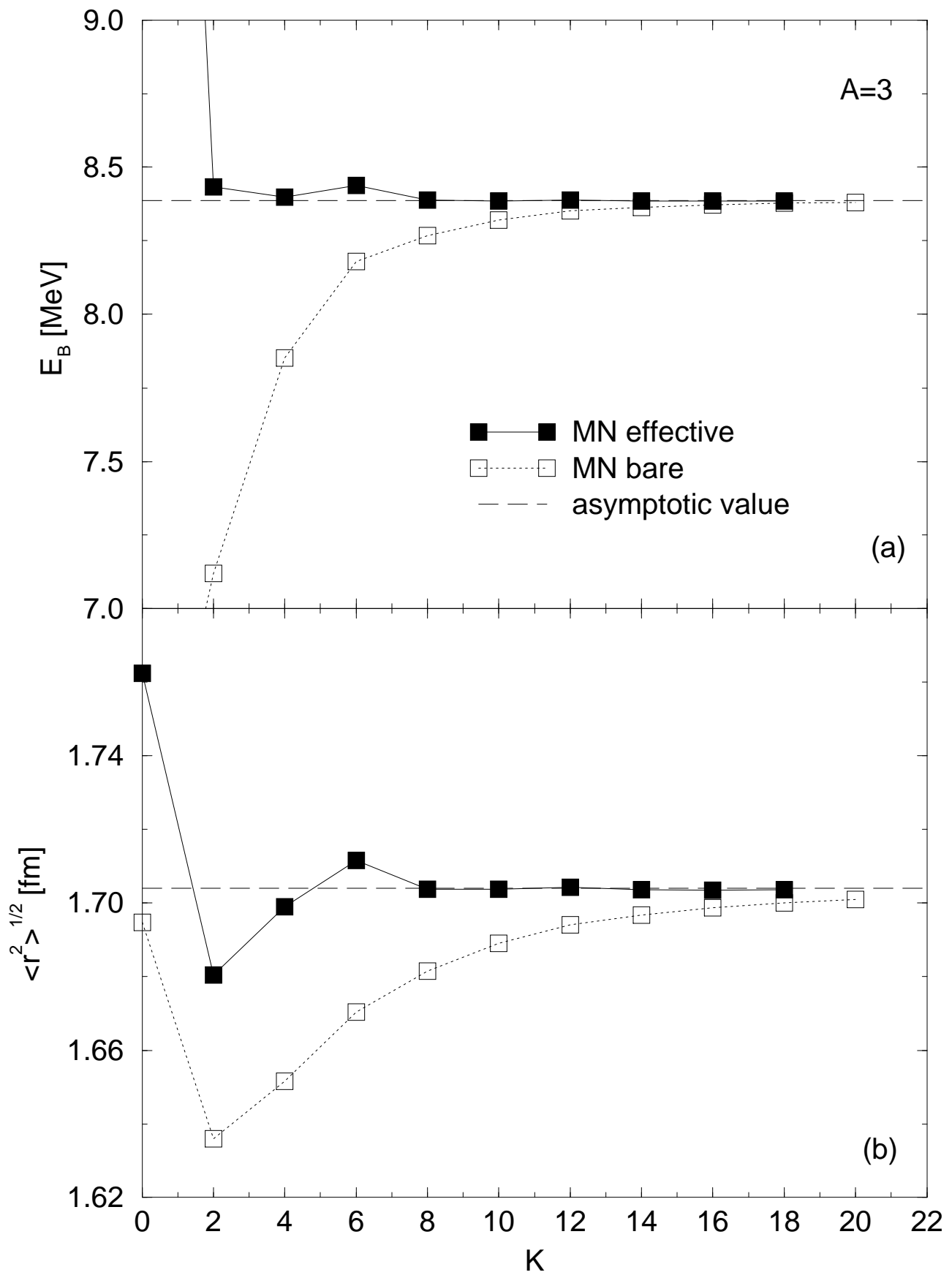


Fig.2

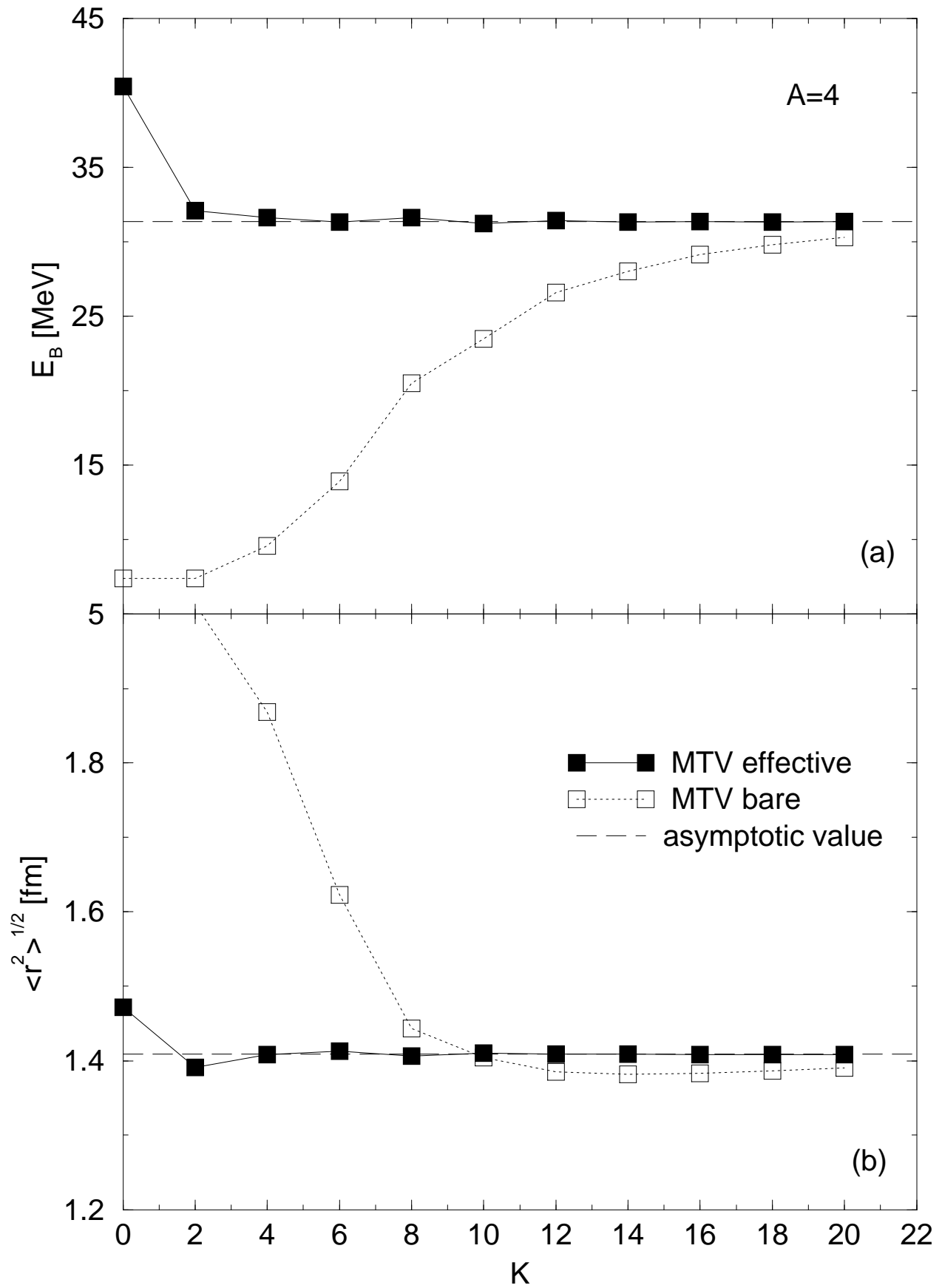


Fig.3

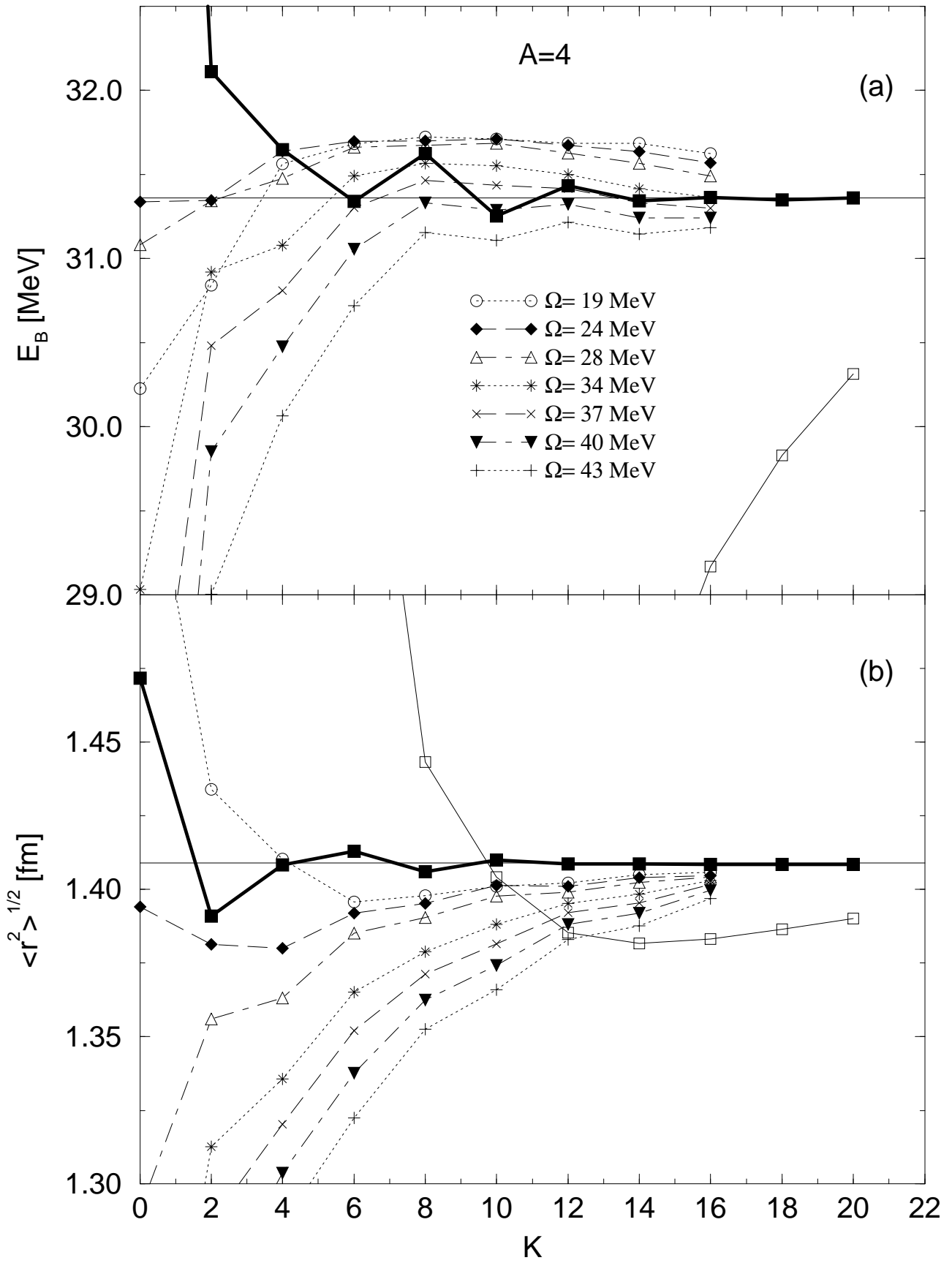


Fig.4

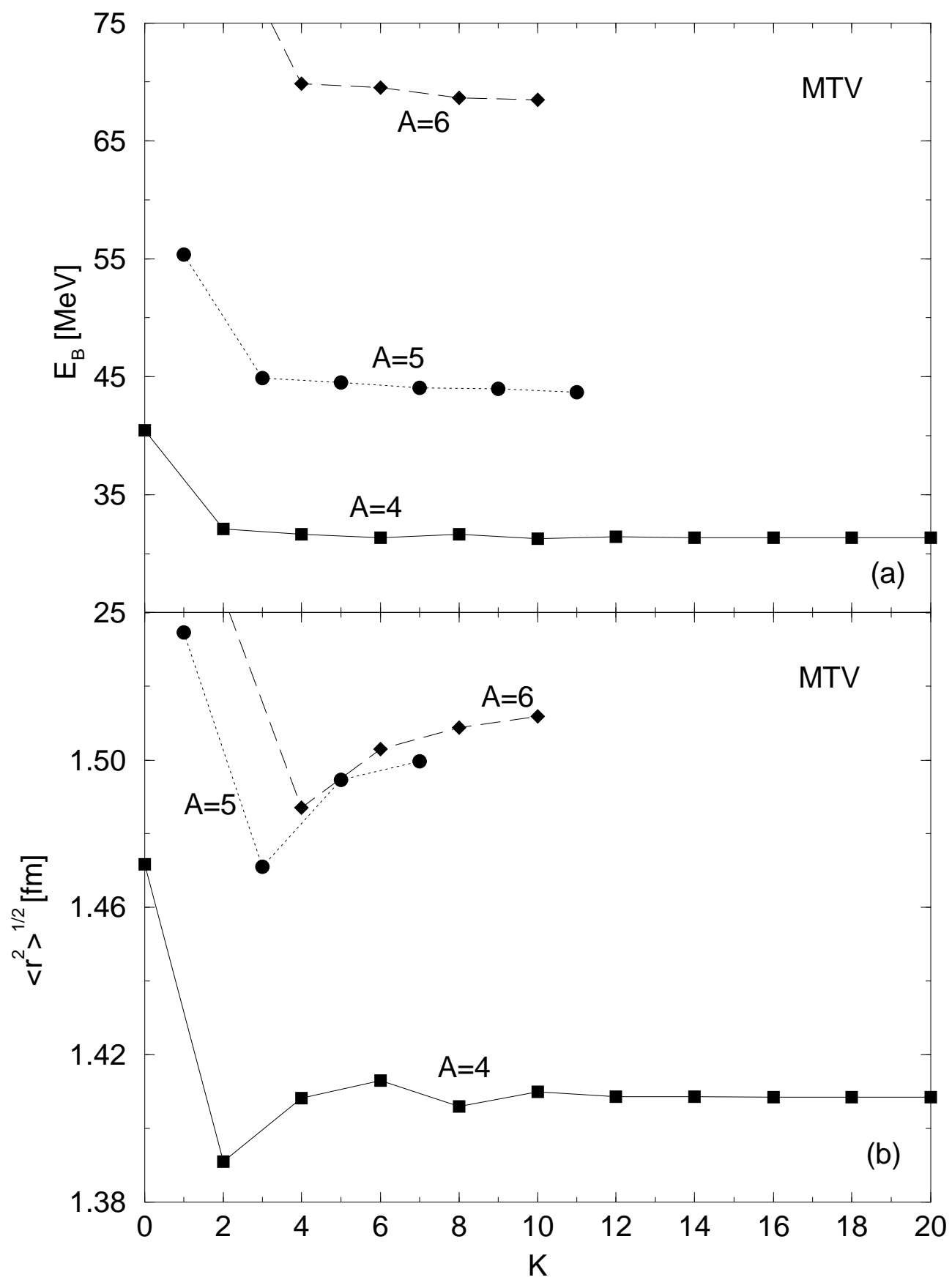


Fig.5

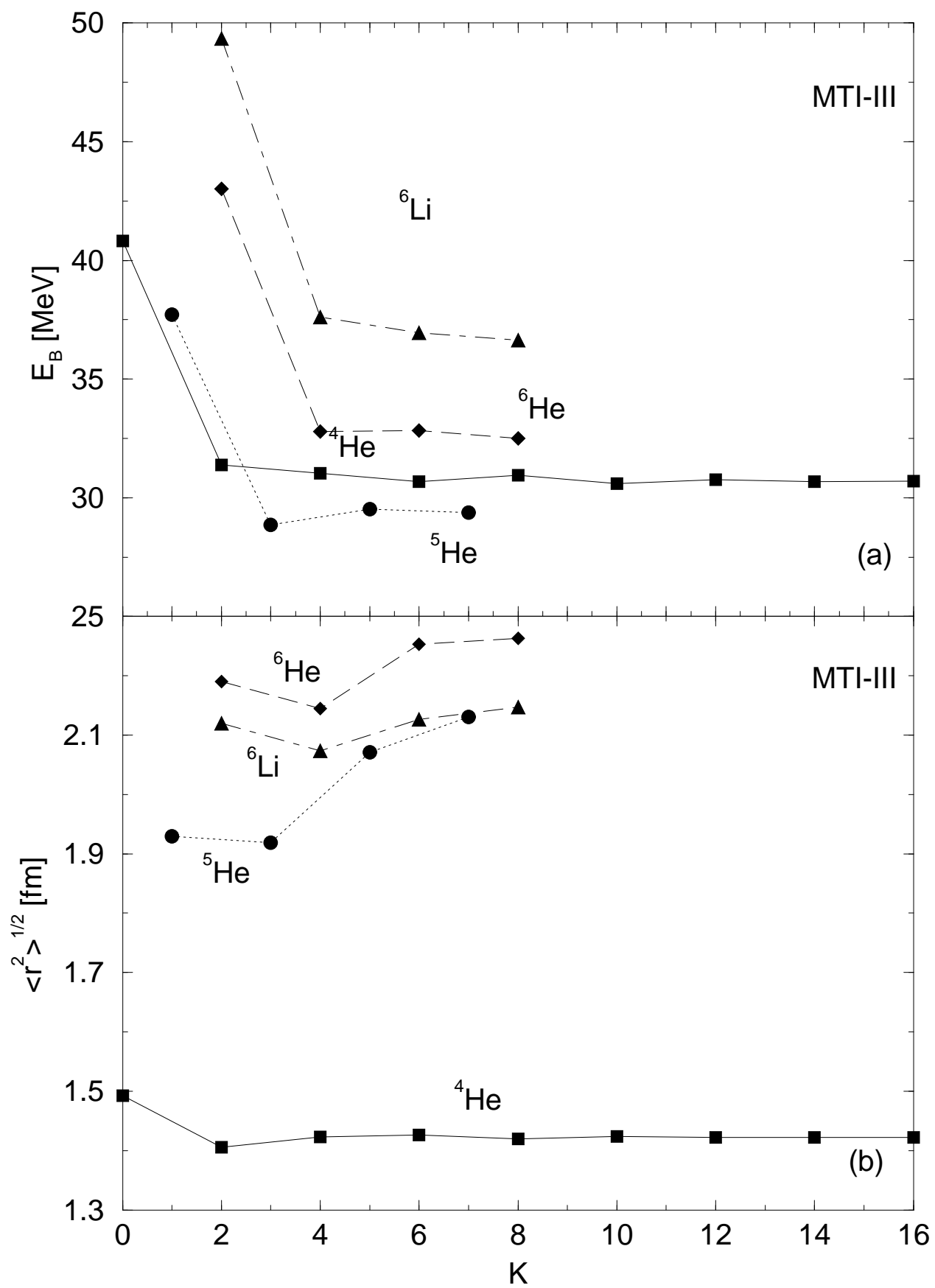


Fig.6

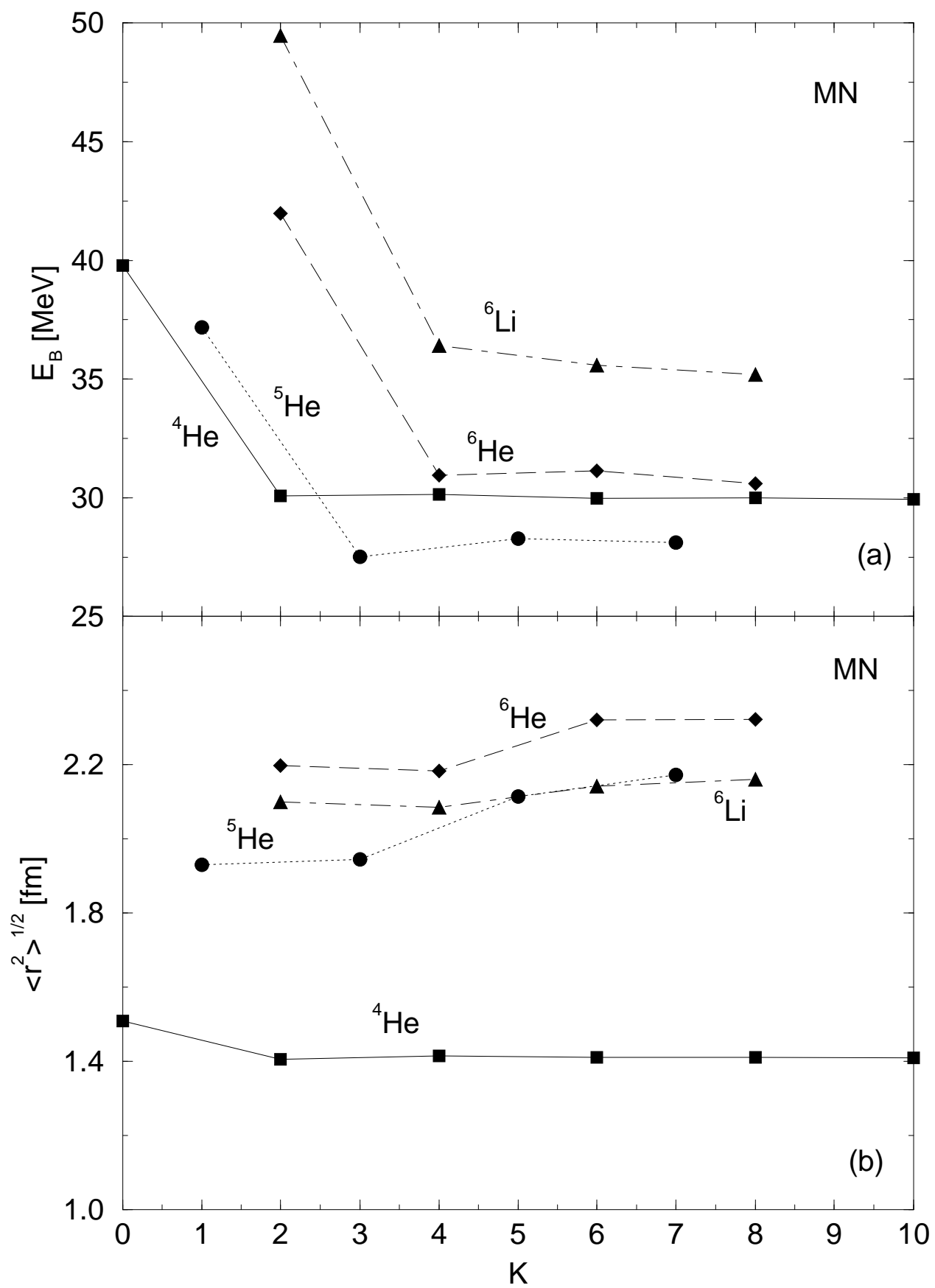


Fig.7

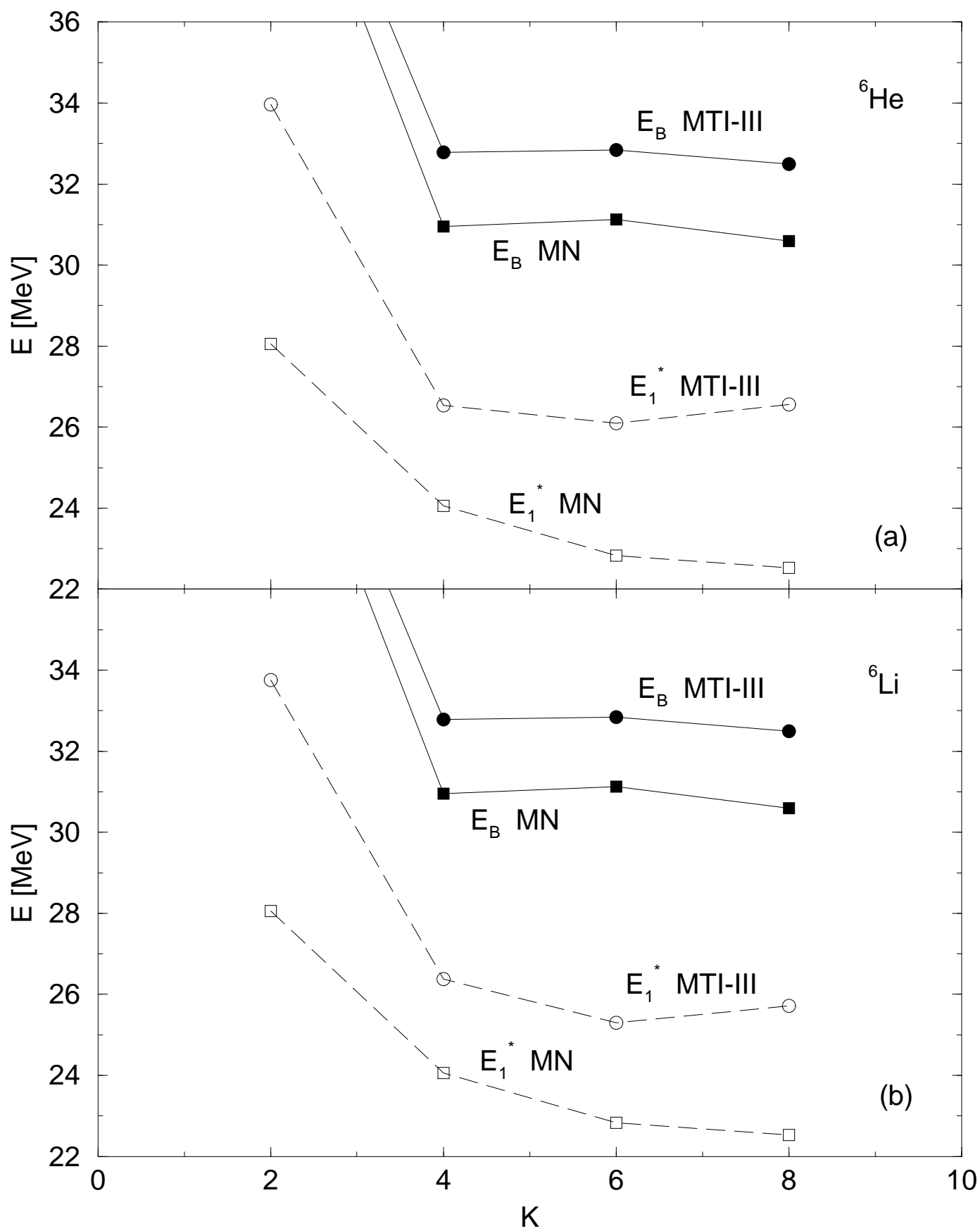


Fig.8

